

PROPOSED COUNCIL STUDY ISSUEFor Calendar Year: 2004New **X**

Previous Year (below line/defer)

Issue: Explore the Feasibility of Consolidating Municipal Elections with State and Federal Elections in Even-Number Years

Lead Department: Office of the City Manager

General Plan Element or Sub-Element: Legislative/Management

1. What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated it?

The number of ballot types increased significantly due to redistricting after the 2000 Census. Four additional languages were federally mandated in July 2002 which resulted in high press run and set-up costs. This factor resulted in a significant increase to the cost of conducting elections. When a City consolidates their election with other jurisdictions, it benefits by sharing the cost, instead of conducting a stand alone election. Possible cost savings depends upon the number of other participating jurisdictions, ballot measures and candidates on the respective ballot. During 2003 budget deliberations the November 4, 2003 municipal general election's estimated cost from the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters was over \$300,000. This study issue would examine the charter amendment process, costs, voter turn out numbers and issues surrounding moving our general election from odd numbered to even numbered years.

2. How does this relate to the General Plan or existing City Policy?

Legislative/Management Sub-Element Goal 7.3 Elections (1) - In cooperation with County Registrar of Voters, contain costs of elections as long as the elections process is not adversely affected (i.e., purge voter rolls, limit costs for candidate statements, prevent abuse of absentee ballot process). Support continued state reimbursement of absentee ballot costs.

Legislative/Management Sub-Element Goal 7.3 Elections (2) - In cooperation with County Registrar of Voters, support practices which would increase voter turnout in local elections.

3. Origin of issue:

Councilmember: Howe 10/7/03

General Plan:

Staff: _____

BOARD or COMMISSION

Arts	Housing & Human Svcs
Bldg. Code of Appeals	Library
BPAC	Parks & Rec.
CCAB	Personnel
Heritage & Preservation	Planning
Board / Commission Ranking/Comment:	

_____ Board / Commission ranked _____ of _____

4. Multiple Year Project? Yes ☒ No Expected Year of Completion 2005

5. Estimated work hours for completion of the study issue.

(a) Estimated work hours from the lead department _____ 80

(b) Estimated work hours from consultant(s): _____

(c) Estimated work hours from the City Attorney's Office: _____ 50

(d) List any other department(s) and number of work hours:

Department(s): _____

Total Estimated Hours: _____

6. Expected participation involved in the study issue process?

(a) Does Council need to approve a work plan? Yes No ☒

(b) Does this issue require review by a Board/Commission? Yes No ☒

If so, which Board/Commission? _____

(c) Is a Council Study Session anticipated? Yes No ☒

(d) What is the public participation process?

Public Hearing on Study Issues at City Council Meeting

7. Estimated Fiscal Impact:

Cost of Study	\$ _____
Capital Budget Costs	\$ _____
New Annual Operating Costs	\$ _____
New Revenues or Savings	\$ To be determined _____
10 Year RAP Total	\$ _____
Budget Modification Needed	\$ _____

8. Staff Recommendation

Recommended for Study
Against Study
No Recommendation

reviewed by

Department Director

Date

approved by

City Manager

Date